



**Minutes of the
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD
December 9th, 2020**

The meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Board opened at 9:00 am in the Iris Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee and carried to members via WEBEX®.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Director Ward reviewed the Policy and Procedures for electronic Board meetings.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 am CST.

| The Chairperson had Ms. Ferguson to conduct a roll call with the following results. | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|---|---------|--------|
| Board Member's Name | Present | Absent | Board Member's Name | Present | Absent |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | Twila Rose | X | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | James Ross RN | X | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | Dennis Rowe | X | |
| Greg Miller | X | | Tim Strange | X | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | Tyler White | | X |
| Randy Porter | X | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | 13 Present; 0 Absent; A quorum was declared | | |

Also, present:

- Brandon Ward Director Office of Emergency Medical Services
- Hansel Cook Assistant EMS Director
- Joe Holley MD State Medical Director
- Paul Richards Legal Counsel
- John Dabbs Region 1 EMS Consultant
- Steve Hamby Region 2 EMS Consultant
- Nita Jernigan Region 3 EMS Consultant
- Brian Tompkins Region 4 EMS Consultant
- Dwight Davis Region 5 EMS Consultant
- LeeAnne Boeringer Region 6 EMS Consultant
- Teddy Myracle Region 7 EMS Consultant
- Kevin Cagle Region 8 EMS Consultant
- Randall Kirby EMS Consultant at Large
- Tory Ferguson Regulatory Board Administrative Assistant 2

Chairman Dr. Smith welcomed all the new members and had them to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – The minutes of the September 23rd, 2020 Board Meeting were presented. A motion by Mr. Rowe to accept and seconded by Mr. Strange was received.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------------------|--------|-----|---------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | Absent | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

OGC Report

Mr. Richards from the OGC advised the Board of the Conflict Policy and advised the Board that OGC had twenty-nine (29) open cases. There were to be four (4) agreed orders to be presented today. He advised the Air Ambulance Rules were in internal review.

TnPAP Report

No report available.

Applicant Approvals

There are no approvals for this session.

OGC Cases

Bradle Roamine Abram; AEMT Number 210039; Docket Number 17.3-200956

The particulars of this case and as well as the Agreed Order were presented by Mr. Richards. A motion to accept as presented was made by Mr. Ross and seconded by Ms. Yeatman.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------------------|--------|-----|---------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | Absent | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Jason O. Bizzell; AEMT Number 38266; Docket Number 17.34-204032A

(Mr. Ross and Mr. Rowe recused themselves) The particulars of this case as well as the Agreed Order were presented by Mr. Richards. A motion to accept as presented was made by Mr. Porter and seconded by Ms. Yeatman.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | | X | | Twila Rose | | X | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|--|------------------------------|---------|---|--|
| Jeff Beaman | | X | | James Ross RN | Recused | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | | X | | Dennis Rowe | Recused | | |
| Greg Miller | | X | | Tim Strange | | X | |
| Brad Phillips | | X | | Tyler White | Absent | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | | X | |
| Brian Robinson | | X | | 1 Aye; 9 Nays; Motion failed | | | |

Jeremy McNeal; Paramedic Number 364501; Docket Number 17.34-202842A

(Mr. Ross and Mr. Rowe rejoined the proceedings) The particulars of this case as well as the Agreed Order were presented by Mr. Richards. A motion to accept as presented was made by Mr. Strange and seconded by Mr. Ross.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | Absent | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Joshua Print; Paramedic Number 212130; Docket Number 17.34-202841A

(Mr. Ross and Mr. Rowe rejoined the proceedings) The particulars of this case as well as the Agreed Order were presented by Mr. Richards. A motion to accept as presented was made by Mr. Porter and seconded by Ms. Rose.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---|---|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | | X | | Twila Rose | | X | |
| Jeff Beaman | | X | | James Ross RN | | X | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | | X | | Dennis Rowe | | X | |
| Greg Miller | | X | | Tim Strange | | X | |
| Brad Phillips | | X | | Tyler White | Abstained due to the fact he had returned but did not hear the whole case | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | | X | |
| Brian Robinson | | X | | 1 Aye; 11 Nays; 1 abstain Motion Failed | | | |

School Approvals

Director Ward presented two (2) EMS Training Programs. He stated the Programs (Montgomery County EMS – EMT-B Training and Carter County EMS – AEMT Training)) have been reviewed and site visits performed. His recommendation was for approval of both.

A motion was received from Mr. Rowe to approve Montgomery County EMS to conduct EMT-B training and was seconded by Mr. Strange.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

A motion was received from Mr. Rowe to approve Carter County EMS to conduct AEMT training and was seconded by Mr. Strange.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Reinstating Licenses Requests

Ryan Whitten Request

Mr. Whitten was present (via Webex®) and presented the particulars of his request. A motion was received from Mr. Strange to Reinstate license per accepting the standard TnPAP Prescription and completion. A second was received from Ms. Yeatman.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Brandon Johnson Request

Mr. Johnson was present (via Webex®) and related the particulars of his request. A motion was received from Ms. Rose and seconded by Mr. Ross to reinstate his AEMT license from an EMT-B license. It was noted that the Board doesn't have authority to waive one of its own Rules. The motion was withdrawn by Ms. Rose and Mr. Ross concurs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Air Ambulance Committee

The report was given by Kevin Nooner.

B. Tennessee Ambulance Service Association

Keith Douglas came forward to discuss a situation with staffing units in the pandemic. He also had a proposal for an Emergency Rule Change. Mr. Richards noted that Emergency Rules are to be in effect for only 180 days and maybe reinstated after 1 year. The concept is that during this time a permanent rule change is being crafted.

A motion by Mr. Ross and seconded Mr. Strange to have Director Ward and the administrative staff, with input from OGC, compose a letter to the Commissioner that in the face of the growing pandemic, to improve patient safety that Level 1 and 2 be allowed to use alternative staffing measures and that be communicated to be included in an Executive Order.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

C. Ambulance Committee

The report was received from Allen Lovett and he related the progress on several projects they have made.

D. Clinical Issues Committee and Medical Director's Report

Dr. Holley presented progress made by the Committee on several fronts. One was the issue of prolonged off load times at hospitals. A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Dr. Brown to have the Director to draft a letter to the Governor Office, Healthcare Facilities Board, Tennessee Hospital Association and Commissioner of Health to increase awareness of the issue and EMTALA concerns.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Dr Holley related issues that have been encountered with COVID testing of EMS personnel. A motion came from Mr. Rowe and seconded by Mr. Beaman to inform the State’s EMS Systems of COVID testing, symptoms of the disease, vaccine information, what is minimum PPE for COVID patients and follow up cleaning.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member’s Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member’s Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | X | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 13 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Mr. Beaman had to be excused due a prior commitment.

E. COPEC

A report was received from Natasha Kurth.

F. Initial Education Committee

The report was received from Mr. Kirk Harris.

G. Continuing Education Committee

Mr. Tim Strange delivered the report.

H. Director’s Report

Director Ward brought to the attention of the Board the history of Chattanooga State Hybrid Paramedic class and requested that it be approved for the upcoming class. A motion from Mr. Ross and seconded by Mr. Strange to grant approval.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member’s Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member’s Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | Absent | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | X | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried |
|----------------|---|--|--|---------------------------------|

Mr. Porter had to be excused for a few minutes.

Director Ward related to the Board COVID effects on EMS Systems in the State.

A discussion was held on Retention and Recruitment Committee. Mr. Strange made a motion and a second was received from Mr. White to form regional Retention and Recruitment Committees as recommended by Director Ward.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | Absent | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | Absent | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 11 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Director Ward discussed the Columbia State Pilot Program Integrated AEMT class. Mr. Rowe motioned to open this program to other schools as a pilot program if they meet the requirements of the Office of EMS and permission to do so will based on their pass rate. Mr. Miller seconded the motion.

| Roll Call Vote | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain | Board Member's Name | Aye | Nay | Abstain |
| Chrm Dr. Sullivan Smith | X | | | Twila Rose | X | | |
| Jeff Beaman | Absent | | | James Ross RN | X | | |
| Dr. Seth Brown | X | | | Dennis Rowe | X | | |
| Greg Miller | X | | | Tim Strange | X | | |
| Brad Phillips | X | | | Tyler White | X | | |
| Randy Porter | Absent | | | Jeanne Yeatman RN | X | | |
| Brian Robinson | X | | | 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; Motion carried | | | |

Director Ward gave a short presentation on the Work Force Study that is in progress.

I. Old Business

None

J. New Business

None

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 24th and 25th, 2021. The Chairman did advise the Board that there is a high probability of it being both days.

A motion was received to adjourn with multiple seconds. Motion carried on voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm CST.